(c) and (d) Progress of work on Murthal-Karnal section which is targetted to be completed by December, 1995 is 13 per cent an expenditure of Rs. 13.90 crores upto January, 1993 out of total likely cost of Rs. 54.75 crores at present rates.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Use of Battery operated Vehicles

368. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take steps to encourage the use of battery operated vehicles based on compressed natural gases;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to fix a ceiling of 20 years on the age of commercial vehicles; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Government are encouraging battery operated vehicles based on secondary batteries. Financial assistance is being provided to Government/Public Sector/Private Sector registered organisations for purchase of these vehicles at the rate of Rs. one lakh per vehicle for passenger model and Rs. 50,000 per vehicle for industrial model. To promote the use of battery vehicles 100 per cent depreciation rate for the battery vehicles in the first year itself is allowed.

(c) and (d) Government have not taken a final decision in the matter.

Construction of Roads of Private Sectors

369. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to treat road construction as core sector to enable private sector to secure concessional finance from banks and to give a filling to road construction; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An amendment has been made in the Acts governing Industrial Development Bank of India by which the activity of development, maintainance and construction of roads has been specified to be an "industrial concern" so as to enable private sector to secure finance from financial institutions.

Projects of Calcutta Port Trust

370. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 4550 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th August, 1992 and state:

Impact Assessment/Environment Management Plan submitted or likely to be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and the details of clearance received from CIT, CMC and DFC in the matter;

(b) whether it is a fact that Calcutta Port Trust in a bid to secure assistance has offered huge number of proposed flats to Government of West Bengal at a lesser or appropriate price but much higher rates are being charged from the general buyers;

(c) whether these projects would really cause health and traffic hazards

to the maximum;

(d) whether the CPT or any other appointed agencies have collected huge public subscriptions without appropriate authorisations from the income tax department; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has gone into the question of impact during construction phase & operational impacts on land use, demography & socio-economics, soils, hydrology, water quality, air quality, terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology & noise. Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has brought out recommendations on mitigatory measures during construction phase as well as during operations stage It also suggests for post-study monitoring of environment. EIA & EMP have already been submitted to Ministry of Environment. Clearance from Calcutta Improvement Trust (CIT), Calcutta Municipal Corporation (CMC) and Director Fire Services (DFS) have not been received at present.

(b) On the request from certain quarters Calcutta Port Trust have suggested allotment of certain number of plots on a consessional rate. However, no decision has been taken at present.

(c) No Sir,. Adequate safeguards will be taken.

(d) M/s Indian Road Construction Corporation (IRCC) on behalf of CPT, have collected earnest money from prospective buyers.

(e) The details of earnest money received are as under:

1. Public Sector Undetakings	Rs. 6 91 crores
2. Non-Resident Indians	Rs. 55 725 US Dollars
3. Private Parties	Rs. 2.65 crores.

दिल्ली में सड़क दुर्घटनाएं

371. **डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :**

श्री वीरेन जे० शाह :

क्या **जल-भूतल परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि संघ राज्य क्षेत्र दिल्ली में दिसम्बर, 1992 तक (एक वर्ष की अवधि में) 1699 से अधिक सड़क दुर्घटनाएं हुई जिनमें 1765 लोगों की मृत्यु हो गई ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या है ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि इनमें से अधिकांश सड़क दुर्घटनाएं दिल्ली परिवहन निगम की बसों के कारण हुई थी ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इन बसों के कारण कुल कितनी दुर्घटनाएं हुई इनके कारण कितने लोगों की जानें गई तथा इनमें कितने लोग घायल हुए ;

(ङ) क्या इन बसों के कारण बढ़ रही दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए कोई कदम उठाये गये हैं; और

(च) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : (क) और (ख) दिल्ली में 1992 के दौरान कुल 8505 दुर्घटनाओं की सूचना मिली जिनमें 1844 व्यक्ति मारे गए।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) उपर्युक्त (ग) के उत्तर को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।